

UPDATE

El Toro Road work resumes after rainfall

BY RITA FREEMAN
THE NEWS

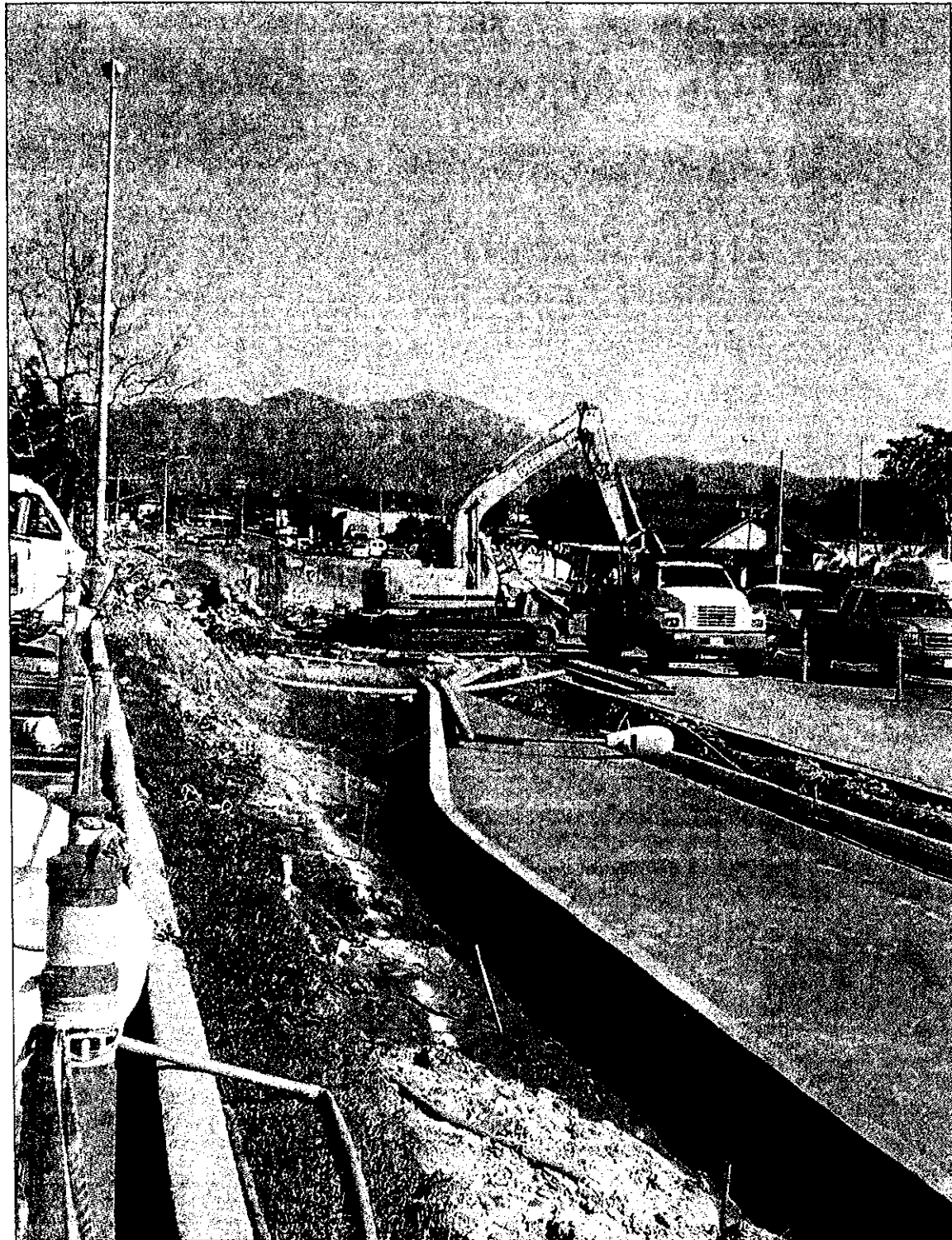
The El Toro Road improvement project will be completed in September, despite rain-related construction delays, Lake Forest officials said Wednesday.

Construction on El Toro northeast of the San Diego (I-5) Freeway was shut down 19 days from the recent rains, project manager Gene Foster said. While areas such as the driveways by the Sizzler and Bakers Square restaurants dried out, crews laid pavement for a new curb by the Lazy Boy furniture store.

Work is expected to begin at the end of this week on those wet areas. Foster said crews hope to have the driveways done by next week.

Construction of the northern side of El Toro is expected to be completed by mid-February. During that time, demolition is expected to begin on the vacant Quizno's and Panda Express buildings.

The \$27 million project will add a fourth lane in each direction, protected left-turn lanes on Raymond Way and right-turn pockets on Rockfield Boulevard. Landscaped medians and walkways also will be constructed.



RITA FREEMAN, THE NEWS

BACK ON THE JOB: Workers lost 19 days of construction on El Toro Road due to the rain.